

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph.

This invention describes a process for the preparation of poly(vinylbenzyl alcohol) according to the scheme shown in FIG. 1. By the process of the invention, poly(vinylbenzyl alcohol) can be recovered with an overall yield of the process is greater than about 90%. The recovered poly(vinylbenzyl alcohol) has a glass transition temperature (T_g) of from about 110 °C to about 160 °C,

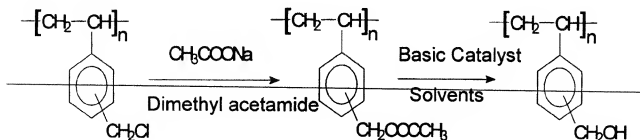


Fig. 1

preferably from about 120 °C. to about 140 °C depending on the extent of conversion of the acetate.